Reviewer’s report

Title: Predictors of activity and participation across neurodegenerative conditions: a comparison of people with motor neurone disease, multiple sclerosis and Parkinson's disease.

Version: 0 Date: 13 Sep 2017

Reviewer: Qing Wang

Reviewer's report:

The manuscript by David Morley et al., attempted to compare and assess the impact on activity and participation of people with MND, people with MS, and people with PD through a cross-sectional study. Firstly, they recruited 386 participants matched the criteria in the UK. Then they administered The Oxford Participation and Activities Questionnaire and Medical Outcomes Study 36-Item Short Form Survey by postal survey to these participants. Finally they collected and analyzed the statistics with SPSS and concluded that it is significant to aid social engagement of people with neurodegenerative diseases.

The idea of the manuscript is novel to some extent. The manuscript suggests that social consequences of neurodegenerative diseases that are often overlooked should be of greatest concern. The study was okie. However, some parts, such as methods and discussion should be enhanced.

Major concern:

1. The research was conducted through postal survey which was completed by participants themselves. Participants assessed their own condition, which may affect the accuracy and lead to bias.

2. This was a cross-sectional study, a stronger evidence is needed to support the idea. Increasing sample sizes or conducting a cohort study are recommended.

Minor concern:

1. In the discussion, different impact on activity and participation of different groups should be talked more.

The introduction and discussion seems a little weak. The authors should discuss more details about the relationship between their finding and the pathogenesis (such as inflammation) of
neurodegenerative diseases like Stroke, PD and AD. The authors need to cite and discuss some recent findings as follows in the introduction or discussion to enhance the quality of it:


2) Cystatin C as a Potential Therapeutic Mediator against Parkinson's Disease via VEGF-induced Angiogenesis and Enhanced Neuronal Autophagy in Neurovascular Units. Cell Death Dis. 2017; 8(6): e2854


6) Nonmotor symptoms are independently associated with impaired health-related quality of life in Chinese patients with Parkinson's disease. Mov Disord. 25, 2740-2746


Are the methods appropriate and well described?  
If not, please specify what is required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Does the work include the necessary controls?  
If not, please specify which controls are required in your comments to the authors.

Yes

Are the conclusions drawn adequately supported by the data shown?  
If not, please explain in your comments to the authors.

Yes
Are you able to assess any statistics in the manuscript or would you recommend an additional statistical review?
If an additional statistical review is recommended, please specify what aspects require further assessment in your comments to the editors.

I recommend additional statistical review

Quality of written English
Please indicate the quality of language in the manuscript:

Acceptable

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